

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1853

INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

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AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA

AMCONSUL PORT SAID

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, EG

SUBJECT: NASSERIST SPEAKS OUT

1. RISING YOUNG NASSERIST KAMAL AHMAD GAVE INTERVIEW APRIL 6 TO ALEXANDRIA UNIVERSITY STUDENT PAPAER, AL-HIWAR. HIS REMARKS ARE NOTABLE FOR TWO REASONS. FIRST, THEY DEMONSTRATE THE INCREASING SELF-CONFIDENCE (PERHAPS MISPLACED) OF SOME NASSERIST POLITICANS, DESPITE STATEMENTS BY SADAT, SPEAKER MARI, AND OTHER TOP GOE OFFICIALS THAT POLITICAL ACTIVITY CONFLICTING WITH OPEN DOOR CONCEPT WILL NOT BE TOLERATED. SECOND, APPEARANCE OF INTERVIEW IN PRINT IN LIMITED CIRCULATION STUDENT PAPER ILLUSTRATES GOE READINESS ALLOW PROMULGATION OF OPPOSITION VIEWS. THIS SAFETY VALVE, HOWEVER, IS LARGELY LIMITED TO SMALL NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS;

PROVOCATIVE STATEMENTS SUCH AS AHMAD'S WOULD BE UNLIKELY APPEAR IN MASS CIRCULATION DAILIES.

2. AHMAD SUMMARIZES FOR AL-HIWAR HIS VIEWS ABOUT NASSERISM, "A STRONG CURRENT TREND IN EGYPT AND ARAB WORLD AND RESPECTED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BY NONALIGNED STATES." WHEN NASSERIST FORUM WAS ANNOUNCED

(BEFORE SADAT LIMITED NUMBER OF MINBARS TO THREE), 11,000
JOINED IN FIVE DAYS. SUCH IMPORTANT GROUP MUST HAVE ITS
OWN "CONTAINER", BUT THIS IS IMPOSSIBLE UNDER CURRENT ASU
THREE-ORGANIZATION PLAN, SINCE LEFTIST ORGANIZATION CANNOT
INCLUDE BOTH SOCIALIST AND MARXIST LEFT: EXPLOSION IS BOUND
TO OCCUR WHEN MORE THAN ONE TREND INCLUDED IN A SINGLE GROUP.
NASSERISTS CANNOT JOIN CENTER GROUP OR MARXIST LEFT.

3. AHMAD, IN OPEN CHALLENGE TO SADAT, DEMANDS HIS OWN ORGANIZATION:
WE SHALL CONTACT ASU SYG, WHO HAD STATED ANY CURRENT WHICH MEETS
SET CONDITIONS CAN APPLY TO FORM ITS OWN ORGANIZATION. "WE APPEAL
TO PRESIDENT SADAT, SON OF JULY 23 REVOLUTION, TO ALLOW JULY 23
GENERATION TO SET UP THEIR OWN (ASU) ORGANIZATION."

4. AHMAD CONCLUDED BY URGING NASSERISTS NOT ONLY TO REMAIN
INDEPENDENT INSIDE ASU BUT ALSO TO "MAINTAIN NASSERIST CURRENT"
BY USING STUDENT UNIONS, YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS, AND TRADE UNIONS.
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